

REMARKS**Allowed Claims**

The Examiner's recognition of Applicants' invention by the allowance of claims 1-19 is gratefully acknowledged.

Amendment to the Claim 20

Claim 20 is amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicants' invention by reciting the single cable drum is located at the rear end of the guide track. The disclosure for the location of the cable drum can be found starting on page 16, line 28, through page 17, line 3, and on page 17, lines 26-27.

Claim 20 is further amended to point out the drive assembly is installed on the exterior of the vehicle and the motor drive unit is installed in the interior of the vehicle, and the cable drum of the drive assembly is configured to receive the drive portion of the motor drive unit. The relative locations of the drive unit and drive assembly, with respect to the interior and exterior of the vehicle, can be at least found on page 17, line 19, through page 18, line 3, and shown in Fig. 14 of the application. No new matter has been added.

Claims 21 and 31 are canceled without prejudice to place the application in a better condition for allowance.

Objection to Specification

The disclosure has been objected to because the proper continuation data was not provided on page 1, 2nd paragraph, of the application.

The 2nd paragraph, on page 1, is amended to recite co-pending United States Patent Application Serial Number 10/798,792. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC § 112

Claims 20-30 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph, as indefinite.

Claim 20 has been amended to recite “said single cable drum being located *at* rear end of said guide track...” *Emphasis added.* It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 20 and 22-30 be withdrawn and be allowed.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC § 102(b)

Claims 20-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. (5,884,433).

Claim 20 is amended to recite “said cable drum is configured to receive a drive portion of a motor drive unit, and ... *drive assembly* is installed on an *exterior* of the vehicle and said *motor drive unit* is installed in an *interior* of the vehicle.” *Emphasis added.* The location of the drive assembly and motor drive, relative to the interior and exterior of the vehicle, according to one aspect of the invention is clearly shown in Fig. 14 of the application.

Watanabe does not disclose a drive assembly installed on the exterior of a vehicle and a motor drive unit installed in the interior of the vehicle, where the cable drum of the drive assembly is configured to receive a drive portion of the motor drive unit. Instead, Fig. 2 of Watanabe shows a powered sliding device having a *powered sliding unit 13 disposed on the interior side* of the rear outer panel 8 of vehicle body 1 (column 2, lines 36-38). The power sliding unit 13 houses includes a motor 17 fixed on the base plate 9, which is fixed onto vehicle

body 1, and a wire drum 18 connected to the motor through a reduction mechanism 16 (column 2, lines 55-61), which is shown in Fig. 3.

In one aspect of the Applicants' invention, shown in Fig. 14, the modular drive assembly is installed on the *exterior* of the vehicle. All the drive components of the modular drive assembly are attached to the track, *except for the motor drive unit*, which is installed in the *interior* of the vehicle. The motor drive unit has an output member 76 that is configured to engage a cable drum, which is rotatably received within a housing 80 disposed at the rear of the guide track. One advantage of the instant invention is that it allows for installation of the motor drive unit after the guide track is installed on the vehicle. Another advantage is that the interior vehicle space needed by the motor drive unit is minimized.

Watanabe shows the drive assembly installed with the motor drive unit on the interior of the vehicle. Thus Watanabe does not teach, or even suggest, Applicants' invention as set forth in Claim 20. Claims 22 though 30 ultimately depend upon amended claim 20, and are not taught or suggested at least. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 20, and 22-30 be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed.

Conclusion

It is believed, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, that all grounds of rejection of the claims have been addressed and overcome, and that all claims are in condition for allowance. If it would further prosecution of the application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the phone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas D. Fekete
Douglas D. Fekete
Reg. No. 29,065
Delphi Technologies, Inc.
Legal Staff – M/C 480-410-202
P.O. Box 5052
Troy, Michigan 48007-5052
(248)813-1210